

# FACT SHEET



## Red Oak Landfill Superfund Site

Red Oak, Iowa

May 2002

### Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts regular checkups, called five-year reviews, on certain Superfund sites. EPA Region 7 and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) have started their first five-year review of the Red Oak Landfill Superfund site in Red Oak, Iowa. The site is located in Montgomery County, Iowa about 1.5 miles northwest of the city of Red Oak on the west bank of the East Nishnabotna River and on the east side of Parkwest Road.

EPA and IDNR are conducting the five-year review to make sure the cleanup continues to protect people and the environment.

Before the site was cleaned up, some landfill areas had not been adequately covered. The landfill had received construction debris, municipal refuse and industrial waste from facilities in the Red Oak area. The site posed a possible risk to the public health through direct contact, slope erosion, and potential migration of contaminants.

### Background

From 1962 to 1974, the site was operated as a landfill by the City of Red Oak. The industrial wastes received there included toluene, methyl isobutyl ketone, tetrachloroethylene, mineral spirits, diacetone alcohol, laminated paper containing approximately three percent mercurous chloride from battery production, and drummed filter cake containing lead.

Under EPA oversight, responsible parties at the site installed an engineered cap on the landfill, with drainage structures to handle precipitation runoff. The river bank slope was repaired by grading and vegetation to minimize erosion. The area was also fenced to protect the cover and deter people from visiting the site. Institutional controls were put in place to control future use of the site and groundwater monitoring is being routinely conducted. The city and another party involved at the site are responsible for the monitoring and for maintaining the landfill cover.

### For More Information

During the five-year review, EPA studies information on the site, and inspects the site to make sure it continues to be safe. We encourage the community to tell us about site conditions or concerns you may have.

Detailed site information can be found at the following locations:

Red Oak	
Public Library	EPA Record Center
2 <sup>nd</sup> & Washington	901 N. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street
Red Oak, Iowa	Kansas City, Kansas

If you have questions or need more information on the Red Oak Landfill site or the five-year review process, please contact:

Fritz Hirter  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
EPA Region 7  
901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101  
(913) 551-7003 Toll-free (800) 223-0425  
E-mail: [hirter.fritz@epa.gov](mailto:hirter.fritz@epa.gov)